

ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension



ALASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

US Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 799
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RELEASED: September 6, 2005

GENERAL: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 20% short, 75% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 30% short, 65% adequate, 5% surplus. **Barley** was reported as 55% harvested. Last year 85% of the crop was harvested at this time, the 5 year average is 25% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 65% harvested. Last year 70% of the crop was harvested at this time, the 5 year average is 25%. **Potatoes** were reported as 15% harvested. Second cutting of hay was reported as 65% complete statewide, however rain continued to hamper harvest in many areas. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting barley, oats, hay, potatoes and vegetables, baling straw and equipment repair.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY August 29 – September 4, 2005		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	20%	30%
ADEQUATE	75%	65%
SURPLUS	5%	5%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 08/29-09/04 MAT AES SITE: - 0.482		

TANANA VALLEY: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Lows in the mid to high twenties were reported in both Delta Junction and Fairbanks. Topsoil moisture was reported as 35% short, 65% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 50% short, 50% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 55% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 70% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 10% harvested. Second cutting **hay** was reported as 80% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, oats, barley and vegetables, baling straw and equipment repair.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** as rains fell during the week. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. **Small grain** harvest continued. **Potato** harvest was reported as 15% complete; rains have slowed the harvest in some fields. Second cutting **hay** remained at 25% harvested as only a few fields were baled during the week due to the rain. **Farm activities** during the week included weed control, killing potato vines, attending the State Fair, as well as harvesting hay, potatoes, small grains and vegetables.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **2.5 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 75% adequate, 25% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 85% adequate, 15% surplus. **Potatoes** were reported as 15% harvested. Second cutting **hay** harvest was 90% complete in the Kenai area but has yet to start around Homer. **Farm activities** for the week were limited by the rain, but small amounts of hay, potatoes and vegetables were harvested.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip (inches)</u>
	2005	2004	2003	2005	2004	2003	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	na	na	55	na	na	54	62	33	0.97
Sawmill Creek	46	45	46	na	na	na	67	28	0.24
Plant Materials Center	55	na	56	50	na	54	61	32	0.68

PAN EVAPORATION

Pan evaporation is an indirect estimation of evapotranspiration or consumptive water use by plants. For purposes of watering or irrigation of plants, it is a good indicator of climatic effects on water use by crops. A positive reading indicates that evaporation exceeded precipitation.

Weather Summary For Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service
 Prepared By AWIS, Inc.

For the Period: Monday August 29, 2005
 To: Sunday September 4, 2005

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 05 - September 4, 05					GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
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Fairbanks_Intl	65	28	46	-6	0.16	3	6.90	+1.24	49	1141	+210	2365
Fairbanks/Eiels	66	27	49	-4	0.34	5	7.44	+0.27	56	1237	+351	2484
Nenana_Muni_AM	64	26	47	-5	0.46	4	5.95	+0.40	48	1026	+229	2249
Ftgreely/Allen	65	30	48	-4	0.28	4	6.62	-1.60	51	931	+103	2133
Healy_River_Air	61	19	46	-6	0.53	6	9.69	+1.35	76	851	+189	2028
Gulkana_Arpt_A	60	27	47	-3	0.92	3	7.97	+2.02	52	583	+110	1695
Sutton	57	37	49	-3	0.78	6	11.85	+4.25	93	510	+18	1680
Palmer_Municipa	61	36	51	-2	1.30	4	9.86	+3.20	53	847	+204	2093
Talkeetna	66	31	50	-2	1.56	4	9.12	-3.33	64	969	+325	2184
Willow_Airport	64	32	52	-2	0.79	6	10.22	+3.82	89	1026	+380	2270
Anchorage_Intl	64	40	54	+1	0.45	4	5.04	-1.75	46	862	+214	2095
Kenai_Municipal	65	36	52	+0	0.48	2	5.10	-1.74	47	457	+82	1593
Homer	62	35	52	+1	0.55	5	3.80	-2.37	67	557	+226	1761
Kodiak	64	35	53	+0	0.26	2	22.04	+0.89	68	485	+124	1608

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
 Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) and Pan Evap in inches.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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